

IN THE CLAIMS:

Please cancel Claims 2-4 and 7-27 without prejudice or disclaimer of the subject matter recited therein.

Please amend Claims 1, 5 and 6 as follows.

1. (Currently Amended) A laminating method for forming a laminated layer in the form of a transparent film on a surface of an image on a printed object ~~by forming a laminated portion by overlapping with the printed object a member for laminating use provided with a laminating layer on heat resistive base material~~, comprising the steps of:

transferring ~~the~~ a laminate having a laminated layer and a heat resistive base material layer to the surface of ~~the image on a~~ printed object for laminating to form a laminated printed object; and

a rear edge peeling step of peeling off from said the heat resistive base material of said ~~member for laminating use the layer from a~~ rear edge portion of the laminated printed object ~~having the surface of image laminated with the transferred laminating layer of said member for laminating use~~ by exerting an active force on the rear edge of the laminated printed object in the carrying direction ~~having laminated thereon the laminating layer of said member for laminating use~~; and

subsequently to the rear edge peeling step, a front edge peeling step of peeling off the heat resistive base material layer from a front edge of the laminated printed object.

Claims 2-4. (Cancelled).

5. (Currently Amended) A laminating method according to Claim 1, wherein ~~the overlapped laminating portion of said member for laminating use with~~ a portion of the laminate transferred to the printed object is deformed to peel off the printed object ~~having said laminated layer fixed thereto from the heat resistive base material of said member for laminating use by the~~ a difference in deformation caused by a different firmness of ~~said member for laminating use~~ the laminate and ~~said~~ the printed object.

6. (Currently Amended) A laminating method according to Claim 1, wherein ~~said member for laminating use~~ the laminate is provided as a continuous sheet, and ~~said~~ the printed object is supplied as a cut sheet to a specific portion of ~~said~~ the continuous sheet.

Claims 7-27. (Cancelled).